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**EXCURSION**  
PLANNED FOR THE  
**CITY HISTORY CLUB**  
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RANDALL COMFORT

**No. IX.—HISTORIC BRONX**

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THE VAN CORTLANDT MANSION  
*Photographed by Randall Comfort*

100  
no 92



ST. PAUL'S CHURCH, EASTCHESTER  
POE COTTAGE, FORDHAM  
*Photographed by Randall Comfort*

# HISTORICAL GUIDE

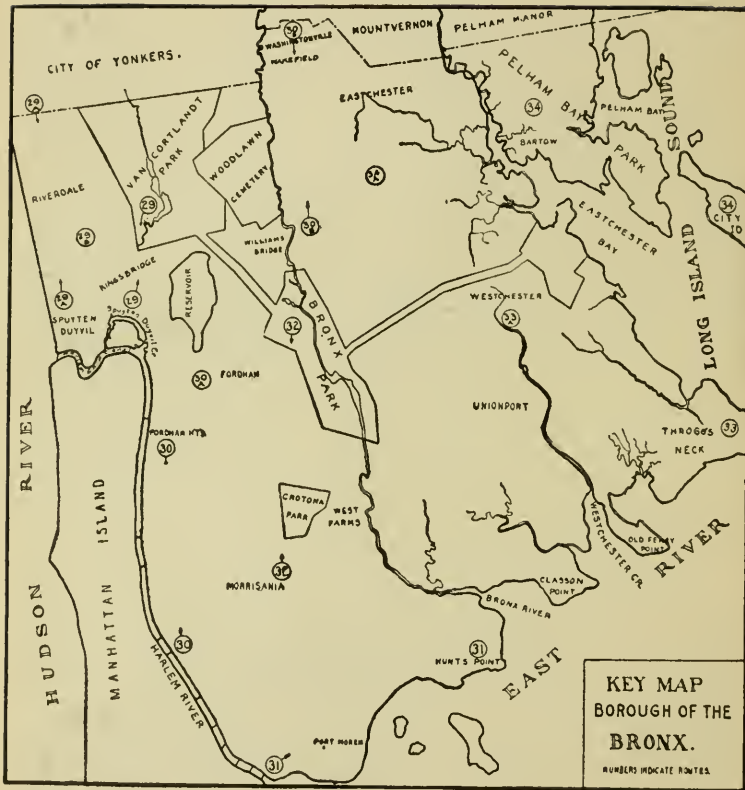


PLATE XXIII. KEY MAP TO THE BRONX.

C. K.

# THE BRONX

## THE BRONX

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## HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE BRONX.

The Borough of the Bronx derives its name from the first white settler, Jonas Bronck, who settled near the Bronx Kills in 1639 and called his home *Emmaus*. An adjacent river became known as Bronck's (shortened later to Bronx) River and in recent times the same name was applied to the whole borough. Many Indians of the Mohican nation, Suwanoy tribe and Weck-queskeeks local tribe, branches of the Algonquin race, made this borough their home, dwelling on the shores of the Hudson, the Sound and the Bronx River. They left various Indian names behind them, such as Acquehaunck, Mannepies, Quinnahoung Kekeshick, Laap-hawach-king, Mosholu. Many of the old title-deeds date back to early purchases from Indian sachems.

The earliest Dutch settlement was probably in 1654 at Westchester. The English soon followed, some of the first titles being granted by Governor Nicolls.

Many Revolutionary scenes were enacted in this borough and a full quota of its citizens went forth to serve and die in defence of their rights. The dreaded *Neutral Ground* extended from the Harlem to the northern limits of the present borough. Pelham saw the "Battle of Pelham Neck," while Westchester may well boast of its Battle of Westchester Creek (see Section V). Other sections could tell of individual engagements with the King's forces.

The early and middle parts of the Nineteenth Century brought great changes. Extensive farm lands were made to bring forth the fruits of the earth; then came the successful business men, who located here their country estates and elegant mansions, many examples of which are yet to be found, in spite of the advance of the city.

The year 1874 brought annexation to the city of New York of 13,000 acres of the western part of the Bronx, followed in 1895 by the remaining 20,000 acres. And now these 33,000 acres of hill and plain are fast merging into that wonderful city that is proud to style itself "America's Metropolis."

# HISTORICAL GUIDE

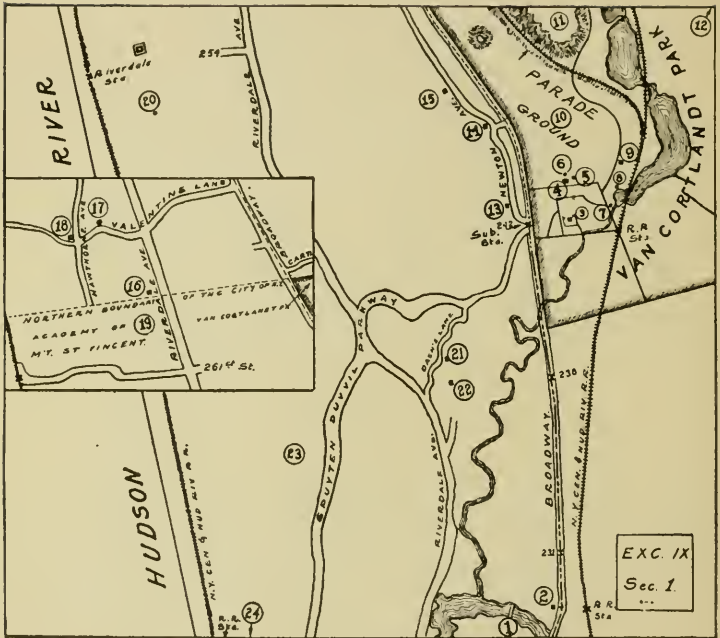


PLATE XXXIV. ROUTES 29, 29a, 29b.

C. K.

From Kingsbridge north the section including Yonkers was in Revolutionary days termed the *Neutral Ground*, the scene of numerous ravages by irregular bands known as *Cowboys* and *Skinner*s, who committed such lawless depredations that many of the residents were forced into temporary exile.



## THE BRONX

### ROUTE 29.

#### SECTION I.—KINGSBRIDGE TO VAN CORTLANDT PARK.

(Figures refer to Plate XXXIV).

*Take N. Y. Central train from Grand Central Station to Kingsbridge Station or Broadway Subway to Two Hundred and Forty-second Street, passing en route on the left*

1. **Old King's Bridge**, described in Excursion IV, Section IV.
2. **Macomb Mansion**, on the Bronx mainland, faces the Broadway Bridge. In 1693 this was known as the public house "at the north end of the bridge," and in 1776 as *Cox's Tavern*. It was bought by Alexander Macomb in 1797, who built nearby in 1800 the first Macomb's Dam (see 25), and in 1848 was sold to the late J. H. Godwin. Parts still show its great age.

At Kingsbridge the old Post Road from New York divided, the *Albany Post Road* (1669), now Albany Road, leading northward to Van Cortlandt, Yonkers and Albany, while the *Boston Post Road* (1672) led northeast over Williamsbridge through Eastchester and New Rochelle to Boston. The Kingsbridge Road extended southeast up Breakneck Hill to West Farms and Westchester, passing at the foot of the hill the old house still called Emmerich's Headquarters, after the colonel of the Hessians who had their extensive camp on the premises.

*Enter Van Cortlandt Park and walk through*

3. The **Dutch Garden**, south of the mansion, surrounded by a moat. One of the stones of the old mill forms the base for the pedestal of a sun-dial.

4. **Van Cortlandt Mansion**, now a museum in the care of the Colonial Dames, built in 1748 (see inscription on walls) by Frederick Van Cortlandt. See **tablet** on the southeast corner. Note the quaint key-stones over the windows, probably brought from Holland. Here were entertained Washington, Rochambeau, the Duke of Clarence (later King William the Fourth) and others. During the Revolution this structure was the headquarters for the Hessian Jaegers. In one of the rooms Captain Rowe, of the Pruicsbank Jaegers, expired in the arms of his bride-elect, having been mortally wounded in an engagement with the patriots in the Tippet Valley. Here Washington stayed over night in 1781 previous to leaving for Yorktown, and again on November 12, 1783, before crossing King's Bridge to enter New York.

See guide-book, to be obtained from the custodian.

5. The **Rhineland Sugar House Window** is just northeast of the mansion (see inscription). It was presented by J. T. O. Rhineland in 1903, and was formerly part of the old sugar house in Rose and Duane Street. (Excursion I:46). This is flanked by two cannon from Fort Independence (see 34).

6. The **Statue of Major-General Josiah Porter** is behind the Mansion; it was presented by the National Guard, State of New York, in 1902.

10. THE PARADE GROUND, military camping place, lies to the north. It is the site of *Van der Donck's Planting Field* (1653) where he located his *bouwerie*, secured by purchase from the Indians and grant from Governor Kieft, and about 1650 built a house near the site of the first Van Cortlandt house (8). Later his lands were called *Colendonck*, or *Donck's Colony*.

*Go east, then south, on Path to*

7. The site of *Van Cortlandt Saw and Grist Mills* (1700) at the west end of the bridge over the dam. These mills were in use for over two hundred years; they were struck by lightning and burned in 1901, and the picturesque ruins were later removed; one of the millstones is still to be seen on the bank of the mill-race.

8. The site of the original *Van Cortlandt House* (1700) and the *Van Der Donck House* (1650). Adrian Der Donck, the first white settler, came here about 1650, built his house and established his *bouwerie* (see 10). His vast estates were known as the *Yonk-Herr's* (Young Gentleman's) *land*, whence the name of Yonkers.

9. The **Berrian Burying-Ground**, between the mansion and the lake. Further east was the negro burying ground, where the slaves of the early owners were interred. Across the lake may be seen the extensive golf links of Van Cortlandt Park.

**Van Cortlandt Lake** was made in 1700 by throwing an embankment across Tippet's Brook, the *Mosholu* of the Indians.

*Follow the railway embankment to the north, cross the road and take rough path beyond over the track and to the top of*

11. **Vault Hill** and the **Van Cortlandt Burial Vault**. In 1776 Augustus Van Cortlandt, then City Clerk, carried the records of New York City up here and hid them in this vault where they were preserved during the Revolution. In 1781 Washington built camp fires on this hill to deceive the British, while he was withdrawing his troops to Yorktown. About a mile northeast is

12. *Indian Field*, on the *Mile Square Road*, Woodlawn Heights, which was the scene, August, 1778, of a battle between the British cavalry and a small party of Stockbridge Indians fighting on behalf of the patriots. At Two Hundred and Thirty-seventh Street and Mt. Vernon Avenue an impressive cairn of stones and a **tablet** have been erected, inscribed as follows:

Upon this Field, August 31, 1778, Chief Nimham and Seventeen  
Stockbridge Indians, Allies of the Patriots,  
Gave their Lives for Liberty.

Erected by Bronx Chapter, D. A. R., of Mount Vernon, N. Y.

June 14th, 1906.

N. B.—This may be reached with less walking by taking the Jerome Avenue trolley from One Hundred and Fifty-fifth Street and Central Bridge to Two Hundred and Thirty-third Street; go east to Mount Vernon Avenue and north to Two Hundred and Thirty-seventh Street.

Follow the Colonial Lane north for a short distance to reach the old bridge where the fight between the Indians and the British began.

## HISTORICAL GUIDE

### ROUTE 29a.

#### SIDE TRIP A.—TWO HUNDRED AND FORTY-SECOND STREET TO YONKERS.

*From the Subway station go north and take road on left running north (Newton Avenue, part of the old Post Road), passing on the left*

13. The **15th Milestone**, recently reset by the City History Club. Note that this stone has the stonemason's name graven on its face. About 400 paces north is the

14. **Van Cortlandt's Miller's House**, a white house built for the miller of the old estate. Further along, on the left, is

15. The **Hadley House**, partly of wood unpainted and partly of stone covered with vines. It probably antedates the Van Cortlandt Mansion. It is said to have given shelter more than once to Washington, and to-day stands on a 60 acre farm. In the adjoining woods many relics have been found, including old English muskets, and an Indian skeleton in a sitting posture, holding a small child's skeleton in its arms. Tradition says that slaves were kept in the old stone room in the south wing of the house. Just above, north of Riverdale Lane, is the **Samler House**, the older portion dating back to the Revolution.

*Go east to Broadway and take car to Valentine Lane. Walk west to Hawthorne Avenue, passing remains of*

17. **Washington's Chestnut**, a gigantic tree over two centuries old. A tradition relates that Washington used this tree as a place of observation.

18. The **Lawrence House**, at the corner of Hawthorne Avenue. Washington stopped here and this is probably the house which was given to Lawrence as a reward for his services as guide.

*Go east on Valentine Lane and south on Riverdale Avenue.*

16. The **home of Clara Morris**, gate over the Yonkers line. *Go west on Two Hundred and Sixty-first Street and take H. R. R. train from Mt. St. Vincent.*

19. **Font Hill**, the actor Forrest's old home (named for a former owner, La Font), is a stone castle with six towers within the spacious grounds of Mt. St. Vincent Academy.

Below Riverdale Station is

20. The former **home of Mark Twain**, Sycamore Avenue and Two Hundred and Fifty-third Street, one block north of which is the Morosini Mansion.

## THE BRONX

### ROUTE 29b.

#### SIDE TRIP B.—WESTERN BRONX.

*From Two Hundred and Forty-second Street, go west on Spuyten Duyvil Parkway to Dash's Lane on which see*

21. The **Gardener's Cottage**, near Two Hundred and Thirty-eighth Street and Greystone Avenue, built in 1766 by Frederick Van Cortlandt.

The powder house in the woods was built about 1835 to store powder for the Croton Aqueduct. Near by are extensive Indian shell beds.

22. **Upper Cortlandt's**, or *Van Cortlandt's on the Hill*, to distinguish it from the house on the meadow below; the **Stone House** was built in 1822 by Augustus Van Cortlandt and later owned by Waldo Hutchins. Further west, near Spuyten Duyvil Parkway, in private property at the end of Two Hundred and Thirty-seventh Street, is the

23. **Cowboy Oak** where tradition says Cowboys were hanged during the Revolution.

24. **The Berrian Farmhouse**, at the point of Berrian's Neck, commanding a magnificent view of the Hudson. See Cold Spring across Spuyten Duyvil Creek (Excursion IV:93). See also sites of Forts Nos. One, Two and Three.

No. One forms the foundation of W. C. Muschenheim's house, Spuyten Duyvil Hill, west of the junction of Sydney Street and Independence Avenue.

In his residence are cannonballs taken from the bank around the house, and Indian shells from aboriginal pits discovered in 1909 under the lawn in front of the house.

No. Two, or Fort Swartwout; crown of hill, northeast of intersection of Sydney and Troy Streets.

No. Three, brow of Spuyten Duyvil Hill, north of Sydney and east of Troy Street.

Under Spuyten Duyvil Hill is the site of the Indian Village of *Nipinichsen*, from which Indians came who attacked Hudson in 1609.

Under the hill, west of Riverdale Avenue, is the **Tippett Mansion**, the home of the family for which Tippett's Brook was named (at 230th Street).

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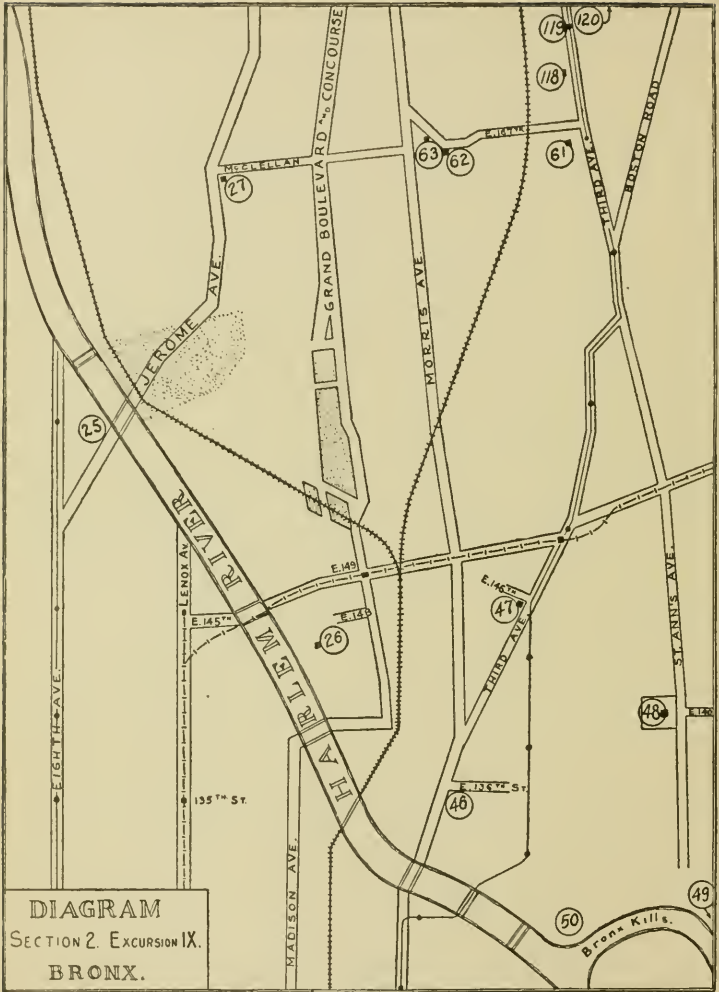


PLATE XXXV. ROUTES 30, 31, 32, 34a.

C. K.

## THE BRONX

### ROUTE 30.

#### SECTION II.—CENTRAL BRIDGE TO UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS.

(Figures refer to Plates XXXV and XXXVI).

*Take Sixth or Ninth Elevated Road to One Hundred and Fifty-fifth Street and Jerome Avenue car across Central Bridge and north on Jerome Avenue, at first following the line of the old Macomb's Dam Road.*

25. CENTRAL BRIDGE is practically on the site of the old Macomb's Dam Bridge, near which was the old Macomb Dam, making a pond out of the Harlem to supply the Macomb Mill at Kingsbridge. The dam was broken down by a delegation of citizens about 1840 and, being declared a public nuisance, was finally abandoned.

A mile to the southeast, *reached by walking east on One Hundred and Sixty-first Street and south on Grand Avenue is*

26. The **Francis Mansion**, at One Hundred and Forty-sixth Street and Grand Avenue, built about 1830 by Captain Francis, inventor of the metallic life-saving boats. He was offered knighthood by Queen Victoria and other honors by Germany, and finally received in his own country the "thanks of Congress." The old Dutch oven is still in the basement.

Near One Hundred and Sixty-sixth Street the car passes on the right the remains of the

27. **Cromwell Farmhouse**, about 150 years old, lying at the head of Cromwell's Creek, where the wild geese gathered in such flocks at night that sleep was almost impossible.

On the high ground to the west is the old **Anderson Mansion**, almost on the site of the early home of Daniel Tourneur, the original patentee of Devoe's Point (about 1675.) This was the ancient *Nuasin* of the Indians. Jerome Avenue skirts the old Woolf Farm, the first owner of which came over with the Hessian troops during the Revolution and settled on Cromwell's Creek.

*Leave car at*

**Featherbed Lane**, so called because it was extremely rough and stony or from the story that the Americans, surprised by the British, were rescued by the ingenuity of the farmers' wives, who spread feather beds on the lane, thus enabling them to escape without being heard.

*Walk west to Macomb's road, one of the oldest roads in this section, to the*

# HISTORICAL GUIDE

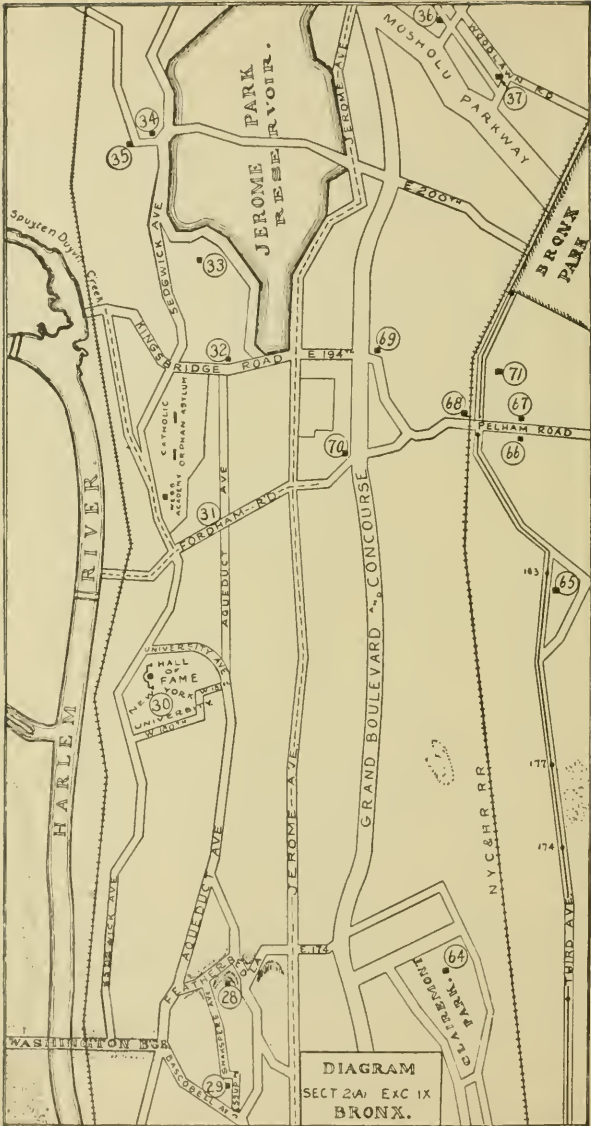


PLATE XXXVI. ROUTES 30, 30a, 30b, 32.



28. **Townsend Poole Cottage.** Note the date of erection, 1782, in iron figures on the stone wall, reading backwards. In this cottage were lodged the Esquimaux brought by Lieutenant Peary from the far north.

*Walk along Featherbed Lane west to Marcher (Shakespeare) Avenue, then down to Jessup Place to the*

29. **DeVoe Cottage**, built in 1804, one of the landmarks of the region. The family is descended from the Huguenot family of Devaux.

*Walk down Jessup Place to Boscobel Avenue, then north to Washington Bridge, from the middle of which may be obtained fine panoramic views north and south. Take Aqueduct Avenue car to University Avenue.*

30. **New York University**, removed here from Washington Square in 1894 (Excursion II, Section III).

The **Hall of Fame**, to honor great Americans, was dedicated on Memorial Day, 1901, when the first 29 tablets were unveiled. 11 more were unveiled in 1905. Note the **view** of the Dyckman and Nagel farms in Inwood Valley and of the heights of Fort Washington. There is a small historical collection in the Library.

**Tablet** to mark site of Fort No. Eight, erected in 1900 on the Chemistry Building by the Sons of the Revolution. The Schwab mansion is within the site of the fort. (Refer to monograph on "Fort No. Eight" by Prof. Schwab of Yale.) At the old stone *Archer House*, just below, Colonel De Lancey of the Loyalist "De Lancey Horse," had his headquarters, while the nearby Fort No. Eight was occupied by the Americans.

The site of *Fort No. Seven* (no trace) is at Camman Place and Fordham Road.

On the campus is a **monument** to the Founders of N. Y. University (built of material from the old building).

## HISTORICAL GUIDE

### ROUTE 30a.

#### SIDE TRIP A.—TO JEROME PARK RESERVOIR.

(Figures refer to Plate XXXVI).

*From N. Y. University take Aqueduct Avenue trolley north to Kingsbridge Road, passing*

31. The **Moses DeVoe Cottage**, at Fordham Road, built in 1782 and once owned by Peter Valentine. It was formerly the parsonage of the Fordham Manor Church.

32. **Fordham Manor Dutch Reformed Church**, Kingsbridge Road and Aqueduct Avenue, the successor to the structure of 1706. Virginia Poe, wife of the poet, was first buried here. The Poe Cottage, where Edgar Allan Poe and his wife lived, stands on the old Kingsbridge Road, one-half mile east (see 69). The large buildings to the southwest are those of the Roman Catholic Orphan Asylum.

*Go north on Claflin Terrace along the west side of Jerome Park Reservoir*, 300 acres in extent, occupying the site of the Jerome Park Race Track. The reservoir has obliterated the sites of the *Betts and Bathgate Houses*.

33. **Fort No. Five** (lately restored and marked by a flag-pole), one of the chain of forts built by the Americans in 1776 to command the valley below. This may have been an outwork of

34. *British Fort No. Four*, or the *American Fort Independence* (1776). The site of this fort is now occupied by the residence of Wm. O. Giles, on Giles Place, near Fort Independence Street. In 1772 General Richard Montgomery dwelt in this section, calling it his *King's Bridge Farm*. On his land stood until recently the ruins of a Revolutionary powder magazine known as Washington's Powder House. On the edge of the hill is the

35. Site of the *Montgomery Cottage*, destroyed 1909, of Dutch architecture, at Heath Avenue and Fort Independence Street. Across the old Boston Post Road was the *Farm of Dominie Tctard*, Chaplain to General Montgomery and French Interpreter to General Schuyler, his house dating from 1776.

*Take Sedgwick Avenue trolley north to Subway or south to Third Avenue Elevated, or continue on Route 30b.*

## THE BRONX

### ROUTE 30b.

#### SIDE TRIP B.—WILLIAMSBRIDGE AND WAKEFIELD.

(Figures refer to Plate XXXVI and XXXVII).

*Take Jerome Avenue trolley to Van Cortlandt Avenue and walk east to Woodlawn Road, passing*

36. The **Isaac Varian Homestead**, erected in 1776, the old wing (now destroyed) dating from 1770. An encounter between the British and Americans occurred here in 1776, the Continentals driving their foes out of this house and along the Boston Post Road to Fort Independence.

*Go south on Woodlawn Road to Bainbridge Avenue.*

37. The **Church of the Holy Nativity**, built into the walls of which are three old **tombstones**, two of the Bussing family dated 1753 and one of the Valentine family.

*At Webster Avenue take White Plains Avenue trolley, passing, at Newell Avenue,*

38. The **Hermitage**, a noted French restaurant. This locality is the scene of Hopkinson's Smith's "A Day at Laguerre's" and "Other Days."

*Continue on trolley north on White Plains Road. Near Williamsbridge Square, see on the right*

39. A **Revolutionary House**, painted red, its sides full of holes made by British bullets.

Opposite the Catholic church is the site of the old *Williams House*, the home of the family after which Williamsbridge is named.

40. The **Hustace House**, one of the oldest landmarks of the region, Two Hundred and Twenty-first Street, facing an **old white house** on a disused lane.

41. The **Havens House**, northeast corner of Two Hundred and Twenty-second Street, very old and containing many relics, including the mahogany bedstead on which Commodore Perry died. It is said that the piano now in Washington's headquarters at Newburgh was the property of Mrs. Havens while she was in the family of Governor Clinton, by whom she was adopted. On the corner of Two Hundred and Twenty-eighth Street stood the *shingled house*, torn down in 1885, used for a time by Washington as headquarters.\*

HISTORICAL GUIDE

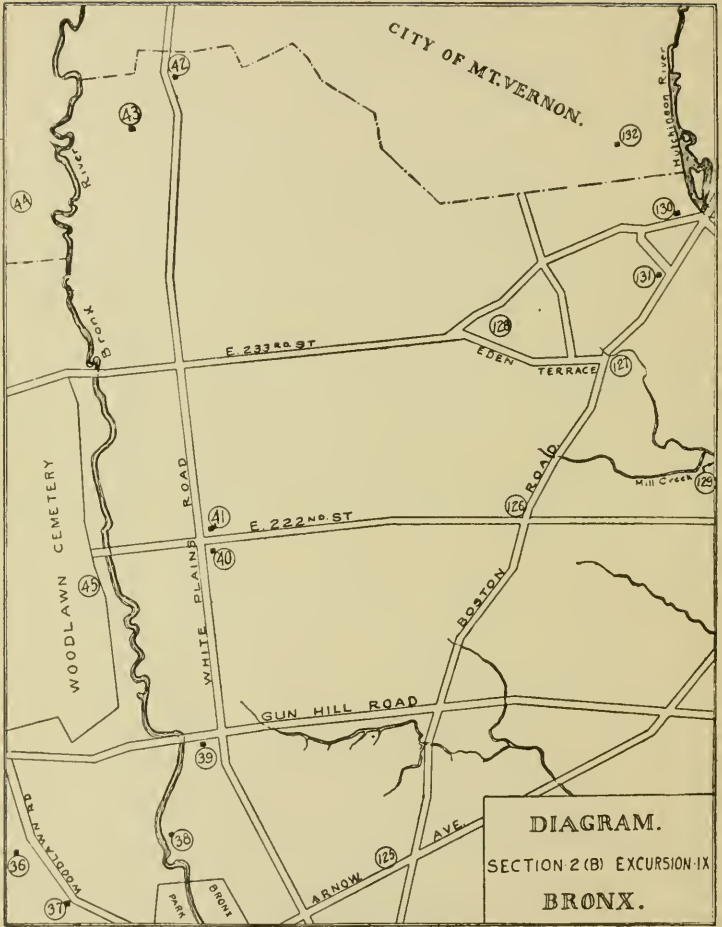


PLATE XXXVII. ROUTES 30b, 34a.

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42. The **Penfield Homestead**, Demilt Avenue and Two Hundred and Forty-second Street, east of White Plains Road, over a century old. See quaint inscriptions on the old-fashioned windows, hand wrought nails and timbers and Dutch bricks testify to the age of the house.

At Demilt Avenue once stood the Thirteen Trees planted in early days by a relative of the Paulding who helped to capture André. They have all yielded to the onward march of progress, the last one, a black walnut, measuring 3 feet 8 inches at the butt, having been cut down a few years ago.

*Return to Baychester Avenue and go west to Webster Avenue, passing, at Baychester and Matilda Avenues,*

43. The former home of **Adelina Patti**, where she spent part of her girlhood.

44. **Washington's Gun House**, on the old Hyatt Farm, west of Webster Avenue and just below the car barns. Here Washington is said to have stored his guns—hence the name of the adjoining settlement, Washingtonville.†

*Take Webster Avenue trolley south, passing*

45. **Woodlawn Cemetery**. Among the 66,000 interments are those of Admiral Farragut and Lieutenant De Long. The Receiving Vault occupies the site of the *Valentine Farmhouse*. In the south-east corner of the cemetery is an American redoubt thrown up by American troops under General Heath.

\*This was while Washington was retreating toward White Plains. He left the cannon here in order to make more rapid progress and thus be able to make a better stand against Howe (see 100). The house may best be reached via Harlem Station car to terminus, thence on McLean Avenue car.

†41a. The **Chateaufeuf Residence** on the south side of Two Hundred and Thirty-first Street, west of White Plains Road, built about 1853, was the refuge of the widow and children of the Marquis de Chateaufeuf, formerly Governor of Touraine, who fled from France to escape espionage.

HISTORICAL GUIDE



PLATE XXXVIII. ROUTES 31, 33, 34a.

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## THE BRONX

### ROUTE 31.

#### SECTION III.—HARLEM RIVER TO HUNT'S POINT.

(Figures refer to Plates XXXV and XXXVIII).

*At One Hundred and Twenty-ninth Street, foot of the Third Avenue Elevated Road, take Third Avenue trolley, passing at Third Avenue and One Hundred and Thirty-sixth Street*

46. The old **Mott Mansion**, formerly the home of the founders of Mott Haven. It is now used as two tenements.

47. The **Mott Memorial Dutch Reformed Church**, at Third Avenue and One Hundred and Forty-fifth Street, erected by Jordan L. Mott about 1849.

*Go east to St. Ann's Avenue and south to*

48. **St. Ann's Episcopal Church**, at St. Ann's Avenue and One Hundred and Fortieth Street, contains a memorial window and several tablets in memory of the Morris family. The church was a gift from Gouverneur Morris. The vaults in the grounds and below the church contain the remains of many distinguished members of the family, including Mrs. Morris, a lineal descendant of Pocahontas.

*Go south to One Hundred and Thirty-third Street and take Southern Boulevard trolley east.*

49. Site of *Gouverneur Morris Mansion* (line of One Hundred and Thirtieth Street and Cypress Avenue), lately destroyed, the home of the Morris family of Morrisania, where Lafayette and other notable persons were entertained. It was filled with relics, including Morris' wooden leg. Gouverneur Morris, the statesman, soldier and diplomat, owned 1920 acres of Bronx real estate. Indian pits have been discovered under the lawn north of the house. Close by is the site of the *home of Lewis Morris*, a signer of the Declaration of Independence. See fine cypress trees at the corner; hence the name of the avenue.

Just west, near the beginning of Bronx Kills, is

50. The site of the *home of Jonas Bronck*, the first settler in the Bronx, 1639 (see Historical Sketch). The house had a tiled roof and Bronck "used real silver on his table, had a table cloth and napkins, and possessed as many as six linen shirts." At this house, which was like a miniature fort, the treaty was signed by the Dutch with the Weckquaeskeek sachems, Ranaqua and Tackamuck, 1642.

In the Morris High School, at One Hundred and Sixty-sixth Street and Boston Avenue, are two **mural paintings** by Edward Willard (presented by the Municipal Art Society in 1907) representing (1) the making of the Treaty of Peace between the Dutch and Indians in 1642 at the house of Jonas Bronck and (2) Gouverneur Morris before the Convention framing the National Constitution.

Passing Port Morris, the car goes near Leggett Avenue, formerly *Leggett's Lane*, along which the British marched, passing a deep cave near the Longwood Club House where the Americans had, while in flight, hidden the bodies of some of their companions. On the right is the site of the *Whitlock* or *Casanova Mansion* (1859), in its day one of the most magnificent houses in America. The door knobs were of solid gold and the house had secret rooms and underground passages. Just beyond, the Boulevard crosses Lafayette Lane. Under the trees to the right was an old structure called the "Kissing Bridge."

*Leave the car at Hunt's Point Avenue, cross the railroad bridge and follow this road to the East River and back (a little more than three miles round trip) passing on the right*

51. The site of the *Locusts*, of Revolutionary days, the home of the tutor of the Faile family, who formerly taught in the family of Sir Walter Scott. Beyond is

52. The site of *Woodside*, built in 1832, the residence of the late E. G. Faile.

Beyond is the east end of Lafayette Avenue, formerly the narrow *Lafayette Lane*. In 1824 the French general traveled from Boston to New York via Fox Corners, presumably to stay at one of the Leggett houses on Hunt's Point. George Fox was one of the marshals of a delegation of New York citizens to meet and escort him. The lane was thus named in his honor. Lafayette is said to have "paused in silent meditation at the grave of Joseph Rodman Drake." On the south side of Lafayette Avenue stands

53. The **Corpus Christi Monastery**. Adjoining is the extensive new Children's Home. Across Hunt's Point Avenue is

54. **Sunnyside**, one of the finest residences in the Bronx, the former home of Peter Hoe. Note the view of Manhattan, showing St. Patrick's Cathedral, the Cathedral of St. John the Divine, St. Luke's Hospital, Columbia Library and Grant's Tomb. A short distance below **Cherry Lane** branches off, leading to the Leggett Dock near the foundations of an old Leggett house. Further along, nearer the Sound, is the site of *Blythe*, formerly the residence of Francis J. Baretto, after whom Baretto's Point was named. It was of Revolutionary date and when its inside shutters were closed, it was a miniature fortress. Near by is

55. The **George Fox Mansion**, erected about 1848, with its square tower.

Down in the field to the right are the sites of the *Jessup* and *Richardson Houses*, near the ancient spring. In 1660, Governor Nicolls granted 1,000 acres in this region to Edward Jessup and John Richardson, who had bought it from the Indians. Among their descendants were the Hunts, after whom the point is named, and they were related to the early Leggetts.

In the field opposite, on the long slope below the Dickey Mansion, see the site of the

*Leggett burying-ground*, whence ten bodies of early settlers were removed, one being that of Mayor Leggett of Westchester.

On the left, beyond the curve in the road, is the

56. **Hunt Burying Ground**, containing the grave of Joseph Rodman Drake, author of "The Culprit Fay," "Bronx" and "Ode to the American Flag." The stone is "a modest shaft, half hidden by the tangle of bushes and wild flowers that border the road, marking the grave of a poet who knew and loved our own



neighborhood in the early days when all was country-like and the city far away." The inscription reads:

Sacred to the Memory of  
Joseph Rodman Drake, M. D.,  
who died Sept. 21st, 1820.  
"None knew him but to love him;  
None named him but to praise."

The burying-ground is to be included in the new Joseph Rodman Drake Park. See the ancient gravestones of the earliest members of the Hunt family. Among the relics of the old Hunt Inn is a pane of glass from one of the windows on which is written with a diamond the names of Drake and Nancy Leggett, joined at the end with a bracket and the single word "Love." The poet was a lineal descendant of the colonial Drakes, settlers of Eastchester.

Across the road is the

**Graveyard** of the slaves of early residents, among them being "Bill," the colored pilot of the *Hussar* (see 83). Further down on the left across the bridge are

57. **Lord Howe's Intrenchments** among a group of trees. In the gravel pit on the east side have been found prehistoric stone implements. Close by is an old cave, declared to have been a Revolutionary powder house. At the extreme end of the Point is the

58. **Hunt Mansion**, dating back to 1688, and built in four sections as the residents gradually added to their wealth, the most ancient house on the estate which for two centuries has been known as Hunt's Point. Among the welcome guests here were Drake and Halleck.

*Return by new Hunt's Point Avenue to Southern Boulevard, along which, near Fox Square, see*

59. **Fox Corners**. Here is the **Foxhurst Mansion**, built in 1848 by the late W. W. Fox, one of original Croton Aqueduct Commissioners. Back of this stood the old *Hunt Inn*, erected in 1660, a noted tavern, the starting place of countless fox hunts and the rendezvous of the Red Coat officers.

When burned in 1892, many interesting relics were found in its walls.

60. **Ambleside**, opposite 59, formerly the residence of the Simpson family, and the site of *Brightside*, the country seat of the late Colonel R. M. Hoe, inventor of the rotary printing press.

*Return by Subway from Simpson Street Station.*

## THE BRONX

### ROUTE 32.

#### SECTION IV.—WESTERN MORRISANIA, FORDHAM AND BRONX PARK.

(Figures refer to Plates XXXV, XXXVI and XXXIX).

*Take Third Avenue Elevated Road to One Hundred and Sixty-sixth Street, or Subway to One Hundred and Forty-ninth Street and Third Avenue Elevated Road to One Hundred Sixty-sixth Street. Go west on One Hundred and Sixty-seventh Street.*

61. **Old Stone Gate House**, below One Hundred and Sixty-seventh Street, west of Third Avenue. This is the oldest building in Morrisania and the only one standing that was there before the village was formed in 1848.

62. **Wm. H. Morris Mansion**, near Findlay Avenue, built in 1816, near the site of an older house erected in 1795 by James Morris. Just west is

63. The **Morris Farmhouse**, dating from 1792, a quaint stone structure, partly destroyed.

*Take trolley north on Webster Avenue, passing*

64. The **Zbrowski Mansion**, the present headquarters of the Bronx Park Department, a solid stone building in Claremont Park. It was built in 1859, and is evidently on the site of an older building dating about 1676.

Beyond is the famous *Black Swamp*, where cattle have been lost since the time of the Indians, and which for years defied the efforts of all contractors to fill up.

*Continue north on Webster Avenue, transfer east on Tremont Avenue, passing near the site of the Bathgate Homestead, and north on Third Avenue Trolley.*

At One Hundred and Seventy-sixth street is the site of the Bathgate Avenue House, a very old structure, recently destroyed.

65. The **Jacob Lorillard House**, in the grounds of the Home for Incurables at One Hundred and Eighty-second Street, now the home of the Medical Superintendent. Here Poe once recited "The Raven." Just below, at Oak Tree Place, was the celebrated oak tree where met the boundaries of the ancient manors of Morrisania, Fordham and the Jessup-Richardson Patent.

*Leave trolley at Pelham Avenue and walk east to Washington Avenue.*

66. **Powell Farm House**, Fordham's oldest house, said to be haunted.

HISTORICAL GUIDE

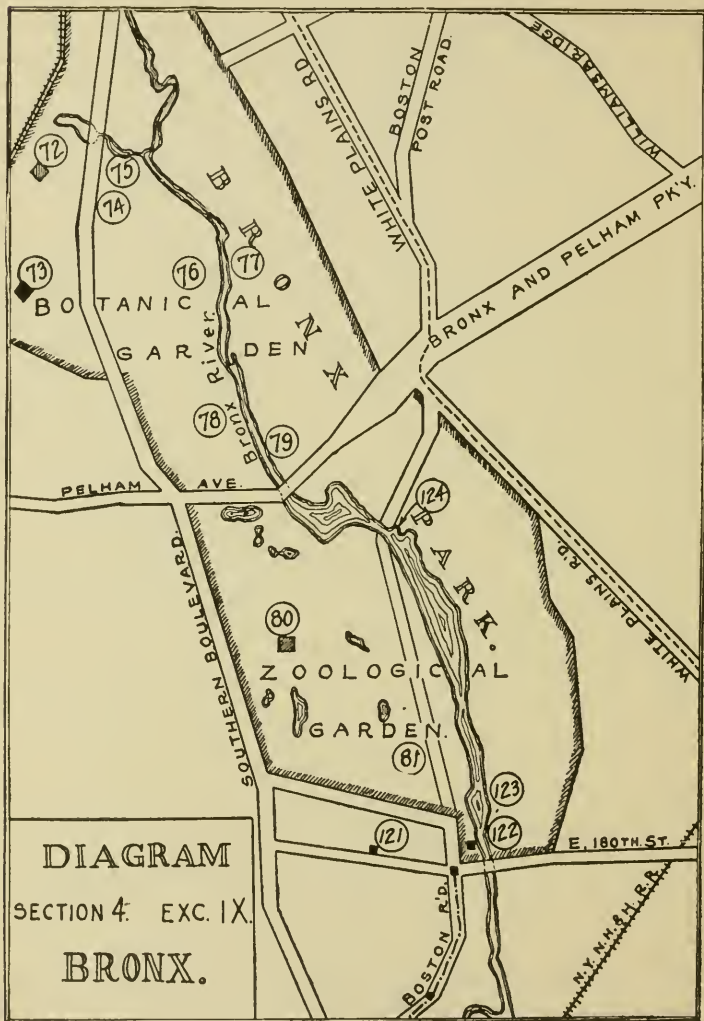


PLATE XXXIX. ROUTES 32, 34a.

C. K.

67. **Stenton Residence**, scene of the recent murder (1906), having secret rooms. In the rear stood an old barn, recently burned, said to have sheltered Washington's horses during the Revolution. In front is the great Stenton Willow, 300 years old.

*Walk west to Fordham Square.*

68. **Nolan's Hotel**, where Washington is said to have stopped when he stabled his horses in the Stenton barn.

*Walk west up the hill along the Kingsbridge Road to the*

69. **Poe Cottage**, where Edgar Allan Poe lived (1846-49) and wrote many of his poems, including "Annabel Lee," "Ulalume" and "Eureka." Here Virginia, his invalid wife, died and was buried from the Fordham Manor Dutch Reformed Church (32). In Poe Park, directly opposite the cottage, is a bust of Poe with an inscription, erected by the Bronx Society of Arts and Sciences on the centenary of his birth, January 19, 1909.

In the **Cromwell House** (near 69), lived an old lady who supplied Poe with the necessities of life during his deepest poverty.

70. **Valentine Farmhouse**, further west on Fordham road, near Concourse, remodeled into a modern residence.

*Take trolley to Fordham Square, then northbound car, passing on the right*

71. The grounds of **Fordham University**, or **St. John's College** (founded 1841), where was once *Rose Hill Manor* on which stands the **Rose Hill Manor Farmhouse**; formerly here stood the *Rose Hill Manor House*, 1693. Here was born Andrew Corsa, the last of the famous Westchester guides to Washington and Rochambeau.

*Leave the trolley at Bronx Park Station (passing enroute the Jacob Berrian House) and visit the*

72. Botanical Museum; open 9-5, see Appendix D.

73. Horticultural Hall.

74. Hemlock Grove (Forest Congress).

75. The Indian Well (Bath or Basin).

76. Lorillard Fall.

77. **Lorillard Mansion Museum**; open 2-5 p. m. (free), under the auspices of the Bronx Society of Arts and Sciences; historical relics, photographs and objects of natural History, see Appendix D.

78. Old Fashioned Flower Garden (Pierre Lorillard's famous "Acre of Roses").
79. The Lorillard Snuff Mill.
80. Zoölogical Gardens; open 9-5, see Appendix D.
81. The Rocking Stone, near the restaurant.

*Return via Subway from One Hundred and Eightieth Street Station.*

Bronx Park may be reached direct as follows: The Botanical Garden and Lorillard Mansion Museum via Third Avenue Elevated (Bronx Park) train; Zoölogical Park via West Farms (Lenox Avenue) Subway Express to terminal.

# THE BRONX

## ROUTE 33.

### SECTION V.—THROGG'S NECK.

(Figures refer to Plates XXXVIII and XL).

Party of 15 adults may secure pass in advance from Commandant, Ft. Schuyler, to go on Government boat Tuesdays, Thursdays or Saturdays.

*Take Government boat for Fort Schuyler, passing en route*

82. **Port Morris**, where the *Great Eastern* anchored after her first trip to New York. Close by the

83. British Frigate-of-war *Hussar* sank (Nov. 23, 1780), reported laden with a mass of British gold and American prisoners. Numerous attempts have been made to recover the treasure, but in vain.

Copper rivets of the American prisoners' manacles, projectiles and parts of the ship's woodwork have been found (56).

84. **North and South Brothers Islands**, the former containing the City Isolation Hospital. A few feet off this shore, on June 15, 1904, sank the ill-fated *General Slocum*.

85. **Hunt's Point**, where can be seen the old Hunt Mansion (1688). On this neck lies buried Joseph Rodman Drake (56).

85. **Bronx River**. During the Revolution the British fleet received orders "to proceed up the Bronx and attack the Yankees in hiding above!" An English officer reported, "We have crossed the Bronx without the loss of a single man!"

86. **Clason's Point**, where Thos. Cornell settled in 1643.

An ancient stone farmhouse, formerly standing close to the shore was shelled by Lord Howe's fleet as the ships passed enroute to Throgg's Neck, October, 1776.

Some of the stones have found their way into the structure of the **Clason's Point Inn**, part of which is the house constructed by Cornell in 1643 and burned by the Indians the same year.\*

87. **Screven's Point** (mouth of Westchester Creek), where may be seen the **Wilkins Farmhouse** and the **Wilkins Homestead**. Here the Sewanoe Indians had a fortified castle, whence the name "Castle Hill." At this point Adrian Block saw Indians and their wigwams on his voyage of discovery (1614). Within the Wilkins Farmhouse several Loyalist clergymen, including Rev. Isaac Wilkins, rector of St. Peter's, and Right Rev. Samuel Seabury, the Bishop, were hidden in a secret chamber, their food being lowered to them through a trap door.

88. **Zerega's or Ferris (Ferry) Point**, called "Grove Siah's" by its colonial owner, Josiah Hunt, whose father, Thomas Hunt, received a patent for it from Governor Nicolls. On this point stands the **Ferris Mansion** built 1687, said to be the oldest house in the Bronx.

89. **Throgg's Point**, styled in old records "Frog's Point," at the extremity of which stands **Fort Schuyler**, where the boat lands. The fort was established in 1833. Throgg is an abbreviation of Throckmorton, the name of a colonist who settled here in 1642, obtaining his "land brief" from the Dutch. One of his companions was Roger Williams.

\*Clason's Point may be reached direct via Westchester Avenue trolley and Clason's Point Road. Pass en route "Black Rock" designating both a large boulder and the Colonial Ludlow Mansion. On the right near the Point, is the Clason's Point Military Academy, erected by Dominick Lynch about 1790 as a residence. The committee to design the American flag met here before proceeding to Philadelphia.



## THE BRONX

### ROUTE 33a.

#### SIDE TRIP TO WESTCHESTER VILLAGE.

(Figures refer to Plate XL).

This involves a walk or drive of five miles unless points 92-95 are omitted, in which case two miles may be saved by taking the trolley from the junction of Fort Schuyler Road and Eastern Boulevard direct to 96.

*Follow the Throgg's Neck or Fort Schuyler Road to the Eastern Boulevard, passing*

On the left the extensive Havemeyer estate, where the British, under Howe, landed for their attack on Westchester, October 12, 1776.

90. "**Hammond Castle**," under the great trees near Pennyfield Road, erected in 1800 by Abijah Hammond and recently remodeled. Beyond the fence is

91. The **Robert Homestead**, former home of the founder of Robert College, Constantinople. Across the lane is the **Van Schaick Mansion**, in the grounds of which is a cedar of Lebanon, declared to be the finest specimen of its kind in the United States. It was brought to America by Philip Livingston.

To the west is the country home of the late Collis P. Huntington. *Take trolley to Westchester (omitting 92-95) or follow the Eastern Boulevard to the Middletown Road, passing*

92. **Ferris Mansion**, in the Westchester Country Club grounds, used as Lord Howe's headquarters after the landing at Throgg's Neck, October, 1776. Marks on the staircase are said to have been made by the hoof of one of the officer's horses. The house was saved from destruction by the British fleet through the heroism of the mistress who calmly walked up and down the veranda.

To the west is the original

93. **Ferris House**, owned for a time by the early settlers of that name.

*Follow the Eastern Boulevard and the Pelham (Appleton) Road, turn north a short distance, and see*

94. **The Spy Oak**, said to be the largest of its kind east of the Rockies. A British spy is supposed to have been hanged from it during the Revolution and there is much legendary lore connected with the old forest monarch.

95. **The Paul House**, just north, is one of the oldest landmarks of the region.

# HISTORICAL GUIDE

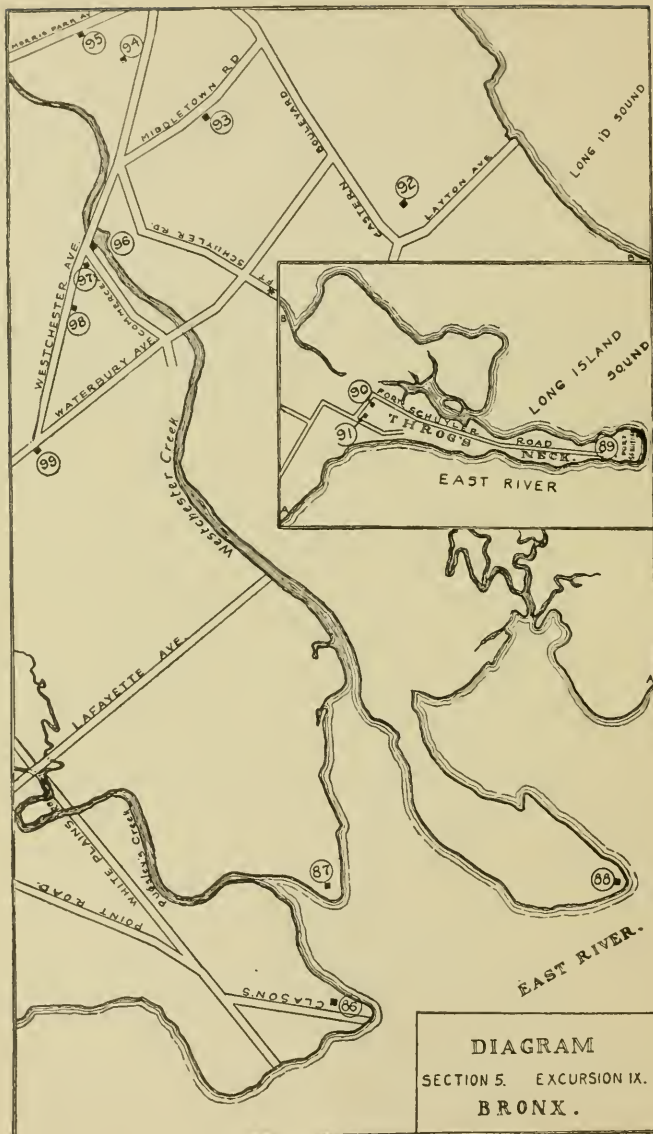


PLATE XL. ROUTES 33, 33a.

C. K.

*Return to Pelham Road and cross the*

96. **Westchester Creek Causeway**, where, on October 12th, 1776, was fought an important battle between the Americans under Heath and the British under Howe. The patriots ripped up the planking of the old causeway just before the enemy reached the spot, and greeted their approach with a volley, repulsing them. Two days later the English brought up their cannon and began a fortification where the Westchester Presbyterian Church now stands, but withdrew their troops and guns a few days later. Howe then sought to join with the Hessians near New Rochelle, a feat accomplished only after a desperate struggle with Glover at Pelham's Neck. (See Section VI and "The Battle of Pelham Neck:" Abbott.)

**Westchester Village** was called by the Dutch Oost-Dorp and the whole region was known as *Vredeland*, or *Land of Peace*. The village is the oldest in the county, having been first settled by the Puritans in 1650. The site was purchased from the Indians in 1654 by Thomas Pell, and was described as "all that tract of land called Westchester."

97. **Bowne Store**, west of the causeway—the old village store.

98. **St. Peter's Church**, on Westchester Avenue, fourth building on this site, the first having been erected in 1700. The chime of bells is said to have been presented to the church in the time of Queen Anne. The churchyard contains stones dating back to 1813. Beyond the Sunday School building is the site of a Quaker Meeting House, while another stood just west. Both were destroyed by fire, it is said, on the same night. Near by flows the **Indian Brook**, on the banks of which the celebrated George Fox is said to have addressed the first Quaker meeting held in America (1672). To the west is

99. **St. Peter's Rectory** (opposite Glebe Avenue) standing on land forming part of the "Ancient Glebe," given by the town in 1703.

*Return by trolley to the Third Avenue Elevated or Subway.*

N. B. If the water trip to Fort Schuyler is omitted, take Westchester Avenue trolley from One Hundred and Forty-ninth Street Station of the Suburban Branch of the Elevated Road, or the Subway Station at One Hundred and Forty-ninth Street and Melrose Avenue, and reverse the order of points.

*The new Throgg's Neck trolley from West Farms will make it possible to cover this route comfortably.*

HISTORICAL GUIDE

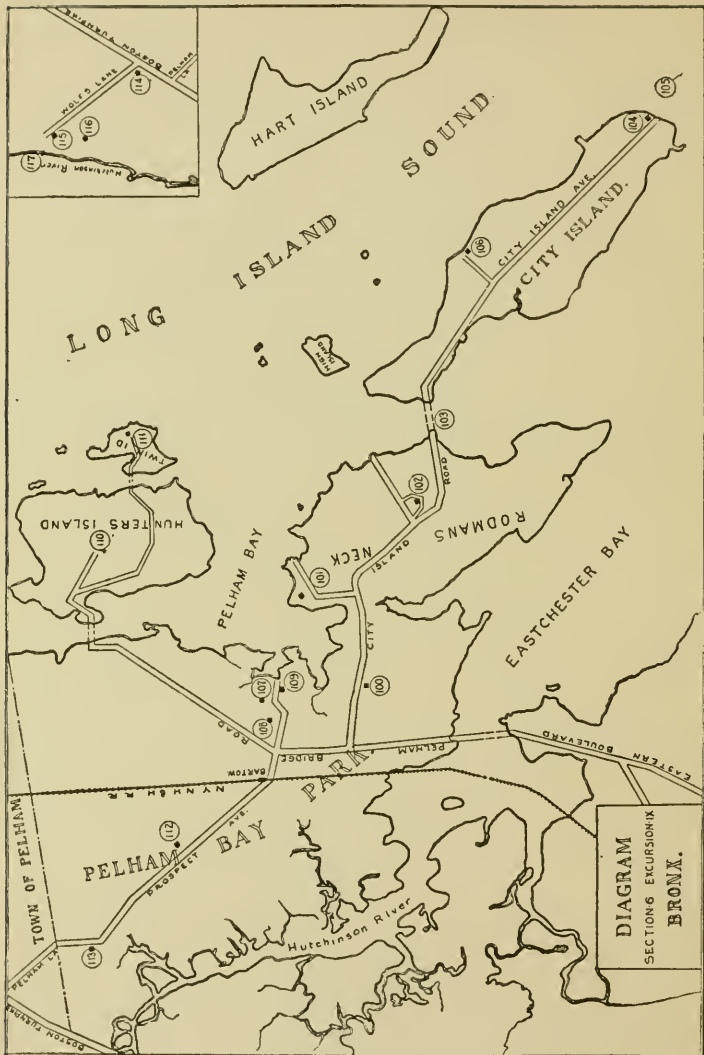


PLATE XLI. ROUTE 34.

C. K.

## THE BRONX

### ROUTE 34.

#### SECTION VI.—CITY ISLAND AND PELHAM BAY PARK.

(Figures refer to Plate XLI).

(Latter part of trip recommended as a carriage or bicycle trip, as it involves between 4 and 5 miles walking.)

*At One Hundred and Twenty-ninth Street station of the Third Avenue Elevated take Harlem River Branch of the New Haven R. R. to Bartow (trains leave 15 minutes before every hour). At Bartow take horse car for City Island, passing*

100. **Glover's Rock.** Read the **tablet**—(erected by the Mt. Vernon Chapter of the D. A. R. in 1901), describing the Battle of Pell's Point (Oct. 18, 1776), which began near this rock, when 550 men under Colonel Glover detained Howe long enough for Washington to reach White Plains in safety. Cannon-balls were found here when the railroad track was being constructed, and a distinctly marked Indian pot-hole was discovered near Bartow Station.

101. Site of *Indian burying-ground*, where Indian remains have been found. There were two Indian villages on this neck, one near the Eastern Boulevard and one on the very extremity of Pelham (Rodman's) Neck. Before crossing the bridge see the

102. **Marshall Mansion**, or Colonial Inn.\* While crossing the new bridge, see just north of the present structure the approaches of the

103. **Old City Island Bridge**, originally spanning the Harlem at Harlem Village, some of the timbers having been taken from the old frigate man-of-war "North Carolina." Previous to its erection here, City Island was reached by ferry.

**City Island**, "the Pearl of the Sound," or "Gem of the Ocean," received its present name because a city was planned here to outstrip New York. It is said that the oyster culture started here. Note the rural appearance of streets and houses.

*From the end of the car line, walk on to the end of the island, passing on the left the*

104. **Horton Homestead**, the oldest house on the island. Most of City Island was once comprised in the Horton Farm. Close by is the **Belden Mansion**, with extensive grounds, at Belden's Point. To the shipyard here some of America's Cup Defenders are sent to be broken up into scrap-iron.

*From the dock see about one mile south*

105. **Stepping Stones Light**, so called from its location on one of the "Devil's Stepping Stones," an irregular line of rocks jutting out into the Sound. According to an old legend the Evil One made his retreat over these stones from Westchester County to Long Island to escape the vengeance of his Indian foes. Heaping up all the stones he could find in Long Island at Cold Spring, he hurled them at his enemies in Westchester, thus accounting for the number of boulders in Westchester and the freedom from them in Long Island. In a boulder southeast of Eastchester may be seen the likeness of a foot said to be the Devil's imprint.

*Returning go to the right at Ditmars Street to see the*

106. **Macedonia Hotel**, on the eastern shore. Read the inscription which states that the wing is part of an English frigate "Macedonia" captured by Decatur during the War of 1812. Visit the old cabin and see the mast-hole, hammock-hooks and iron ring to fasten the guns, also the officers' staterooms.

See from here **Hart's Island**, the "Potter's Field" of New York City.

*Take the car back to Bartow, and follow the Eastern Boulevard about half a mile north to the*

107. **Bartow Mansion**, the summer home of the Crippled Children's Association.

Not far away is the site of the original *Pell Manor House*, though some say that it was on the extreme end of Pelham Neck. Many tales are told of this house, under the title of "Mysteries of a Pelham Farm House."

In the center of a large field in front are the remains of the

108. **Pell Treaty Oak**, the famous tree where Thomas Pell in 1654 signed the treaty with the Sewanoe Indians, purchasing about 10,000 acres from them (see Comfort's History of the Bronx, p. 53).

Between the Bartow Mansion and the Sound is the

109. **Pell Family Burial-ground**. Note the four (modern) stone corner-posts, with the emblem of the Pell family, *A Pelican Gorged*, and each bearing a different inscription. Read the inscription on the large centre-stone.

*Return to the Boulevard and continue to the white stone gate-posts leading to*

110. **Hunter's Island**, where see the Hunter-Iselin Mansion, summer home of "The Little Mothers." On the southeast side of the island are said to be the great Indian rock *Mishow* and the graves

of two Indian sachems. The Indian name for this region was *Laaphawachking* (the place of stringing beads).

*Take the right-hand road over to Hunter's Island leading to the*

111. **Twin Island**, on the second of which stands the Ogden Mansion. From this point a fine marine **view** may be enjoyed. *Return on the Boulevard to Prospect Hill Avenue (Split Rock Road)*, along which Glover's gallant men so stubbornly resisted the advancing British.

*Follow Split Rock Road to the*

112. **Collins House**, or John Joshua Pell Mansion, one of the Pell homes.

113. **Split Rock** is a gigantic boulder, cleft squarely in twain, a good sized tree growing in the crevice. Tradition states that the early home of Ann Hutchinson (for whom the Hutchinson River is named) was near this spot. She came here in 1642 with her younger children and her son-in-law, and in the same year her cabin was burned by the Indians, and all but one of her family were killed, her eight-year-old daughter escaping, only to be captured. Some say she perished on the crest of Split Rock.

*Cross the City Line and continue to Boston Road; then follow Wolf's Lane, line of the American retreat.*

At the corner of this lane and Boston Road is another

114. **Pell House**, remodeled and modernized. At the foot of the hill is

115. The stately stone **Pell Mansion**, perhaps the finest of all, with its splendid columns and iron lattice-work, and the family coat of-arms. In the woods near by is the

116. **Lord Howe Chestnut**, where Howe and his generals lunched on Oct. 18, 1776, while resting during their pursuit of the Americans. Some say that they lunched at the Pell House (114), taking the old lady's last turkey.

117. **Hutchinson River Bridge**, where the battle of Pell's Point ended and the day was saved for Washington. This bridge is on the line of the original Boston Road, opened in 1672.

*Take trolley to Mt. Vernon.*

\*Near the end of Pell's Point see the old Bowne residence with shingled sides.

## HISTORICAL GUIDE

### ROUTE 34a.

#### SECTION VII.—EASTERN MORRISANIA AND WEST FARMS TO EASTCHESTER.

(Figures refer to Plates XXXV, XXXVII, XXXVIII and XXXIX).

From West Farms to Eastchester involves a walk of about five miles.

*Take Third Avenue Elevated Road to Lenox Avenue, Subway Express to One Hundred and Forty-ninth Street and Third Avenue and change to north-bound West Farms trolley, running along Third Avenue (formerly the old Post Road) and Boston Road to West Farms, passing on the right at One Hundred and Fifty-sixth Street the site of the*

*Old school house* where many of the children of the early residents received their first training. Near the Thirty-sixth Precinct Station the Avenue turns to the right, crossing where once flowed old *Mill Brook*, the division line in thousands of titles for real estate. On its banks once stood the old Morrisania mill, thus giving it the title of *Sow Mill Brook*. At One Hundred and Sixty-first Street is the new Court House on the site of the old *Hammer Hotel*. West on Third Avenue, near One Hundred and Sixty-third Street, stood the shingled *Georgi House*, one of the three buildings standing on Gouverneur Morris' farm in 1848 when he sold it to be cut up into building lots to form the village of Morrisania. Here the car climbs the steep hill of Boston Road. What is now Third Avenue north of this point was once the narrow and shaded *Fordham Lane*, extending through the fields and woods of the Morris farm.

At Boston Road and Cauldwell Avenue, below One Hundred and Sixty-sixth Street, was *Pudding Rock*, a gigantic glacial boulder where the Indians held their corn feasts, and under the cool shade of which the tired Huguenots paused to rest on their long Sabbath journey from New Rochelle to New York.

118. The **Tenth Milestone**, at One Hundred and Sixty-eighth Street, marks the distance from the English City Hall on Wall Street.

Opposite Union Avenue is the site of the *Jennings Homestead*, known also as the *Drovers' Inn* and the *Old Stone Jug*, built in the middle of the 18th Century.

119. At McKinley Square, One Hundred and Sixty-ninth Street and Boston Road, see the **flag-pole** and **tablets** on trees in memory of Lincoln, Garfield and McKinley; note also Civil War mortar and cannon balls.

On the east side of the junction with Minford Place is the site of *The Spy House*. In this little building, it is said, lived an American spy who played in the neighborhood the part of Cooper's spy at Mamaroneck. Where the Southern Boulevard crosses may be seen the

120. **Old Hunt House** where Washington stayed over night while holding an important conference with a spy.

*Leave the car at One Hundred and Seventy-seventh Street and go north to One Hundred and Eightieth Street.*



West Farms preserves the appearance of a country village. Just below rises the stone **Crowther Homestead**, dated about 1816, containing interesting carved white marble mantels. Poe was a frequent visitor here.

At the right pass the site of the *DeLancey Block House*, a noted place for the Royalists until destroyed in a midnight attack by Aaron Burr during the winter of 1779. It stood on the land of the Peabody Home (One Hundred and Seventy-ninth Street), the building preceding which was known as the *Uncle Daniel Mapes Temperance House*.

Near One Hundred and Eightieth Street stands the venerable **Purdy Mansion**, dating from 1820. Two blocks west on One Hundred and Eightieth Street is the old

121. **West Farms Presbyterian Church**, built 1804, opposite the new Beck Memorial. Many veterans of the Civil War are interred in the old church cemetery. While excavating near by, the skeleton of a Revolutionary officer was found, clad in Continental regimentals.

At the lower end of Bronx Park, see ruins of  
122. *Lydig's Mills*, built in early times. Just north stood the quaint Johnson's Tavern, an ancient inn where the stage-coach from Boston to New York stopped to change horses.

*Go north along the east side of the Bronx through the Park.*

123. **DeLancey Pine**, 150 feet high, in the thick branches of which the American sharpshooters used to hide while picking off the British in the DeLancey Block House.

“Memorial of the fallen great,  
The rich and honored line,  
Stands high in solitary state  
DeLancey's ancient pine.”

124. *Fording Place* where all travelers had to wade their steeds through the river. Beyond is the old hamlet of **Bronxdale**, near which is

*Bear Swamp* (so-called because long the haunt of bears), on the site of a Sewanoe Indian village which remained until 1789.

*Cross the broad Pelham Parkway; continue north on the Boston Road through Spencer's Corners.*

In the woods to the left is the

125. **Underhill Burying Ground**, said to have been bought by that family from the Indians. A mile beyond is an old house on the height of ground from which may be obtained a fine view of the surrounding country.

126. **15th Mile Stone**, near Two Hundred and Twenty-second Street. Half a mile further

*Cross Rattlesnake Brook into Eastchester.*

127. **RATTLESNAKE BROOK** was named from the reptiles which flourished here, one six feet in length being slain as late as 1775. Bears, deer and wolves abounded in Eastchester and the remains of a large wolf pit are still visible on the Purdy Estate.

*Follow Eden Terrace west to*

128. **Seton Falls**, the great **Seton Cave**, the **Indian Hiding Place** and some *Indian Fortifications*, all concealed in the dense woods, now close to the new line of Two Hundred and Thirty-third Street.

**Village of Eastchester**, one of the oldest in this section. On all sides are evidences of Indian occupation, quantities of arrow and spear heads being found all about. Wigwams occupied the site of the old *Morgan Residence*, while a fortified castle of the Sewanoes stood on the hill behind the **Fowler Mansion**; on this same hill the early settlers erected in 1675 a "General Fort" for mutual protection.

On the right of the road may be seen **Odell's Barns** dating from Revolutionary days, now almost in ruins.

*Walk down Mill Lane to the*

129. **Reid's Miller's House**. On the marshes stood the famous Reid's Mill, a tide-mill which once ground grain for the farmers for miles around. It was built in 1739.

*Return to the Post Road and go north on Provost Avenue or White Plains Road.*

130. **Vincent-Halsey House**, the smaller portion being of Revolutionary date. Nearby was the old Guion Inn, a Revolutionary tavern where Washington once stopped and mentioned in his diary that these roads were "immensely rough and stony."

131. **Groshon House**, a quaint old landmark, the former residence of a Huguenot family, "Gros-Jean."

132. **St. Paul's Church**, built in 1765, opposite the site of the first building erected in 1699. During the Revolution St. Paul's was used as a British hospital. See the historical collection, which includes an old Prayer Book and Bible. These, together with the great bell, were buried during the war in the Vincent-Halsey grounds. After the war, while the old church was used as a court of justice, Aaron Burr pleaded here many causes.

The lawn opposite St. Paul's Church was the colonial village green. Here stood the first church structure, erected 1699, and used as fuel by the British while occupying the present building. Here were also the village stocks, dating from 1720. In

the locust trees which still stand was fastened the iron staple to which criminals were tied to receive punishment.

**St. Paul's Churchyard**, containing 6,000 bodies. Note the quaint inscriptions on the tombstones, the oldest being dated 1704.

*Return by trolley to Mount Vernon and train to New York.*

N B. Section VII could begin here, the route being reversed.





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